undertaken not to be pressed for payment, Shri Mohan Murti Shandilya is adopting serveral tactics and one of such tactics is filing of criminal complaints before the Magistrate.

(c) No, Sir. The officials of Indian Bank have not committed any irregularity in term deposit amount of an NRI. Indian Bank and its officials have taken a right decision to safeguard the interests of the Bank. Appropriation of term deposits amount towards loan liability is a normal practice adopted by Banks and this is judicially accepted, even in cases where the deposits were not specifically givenas security. In this case, the deposits were specifically given as security and the persons have given their personal guarantee. The officials have only done their bounden duty in closing the deposits and appropriating the proceeds to loan account.

Assistance to backward districts

†2827. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State-wise districts have been identified wherein the rate of economic development is below the National and concerned State average;

(b) if so, the details of such districts and areas in Uttaranchal;

(c) whether he would extend assistance for the implementation of schemes in such districts on priority basis from out of the backward area funds;

(d) whether any such schemes have been submitted by the State Government of Uttaranchal; and

(e) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No classification of districts has

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

been done on the basis of rate of economic growth or development.

(c) to (e) The Scheme of Backward Districts/Area Fund, is still to be formulated and approved.

Loans to unemployed graduates

†2828. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the banks are providing loans to the unemployed graduates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for self-employment; and

(b) if so, the number of youths belonging to SC/ST category who were provided bank loans during the last three years, State-wise and Bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) the information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Representations against service tax

2829. SHRIMAT IJAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from various sections of industry/society regarding imposition of service tax, if so, the details in this regard;

(b) whether it is also a fact that service tax is largely considered as tax on the inefficiency etc., of service rendered;

(c) whether Government propose to review the levy of service tax; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No Madam. There have been some

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